

Border Eagle

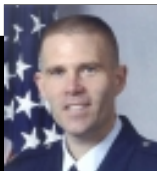
Vol. 52, No. 26

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas

July 2, 2004



Truth, professionalism, warrior spirit: Obligations of service to self, country



Commander's Corner

By Col. Steven Kwast
47th Operation Group commander

~~In my opinion there are three~~
things that make you a person worthy of wearing the uniform of our Air Force and delivering decisive airpower for our nation.

First, you have to tell the truth. You must be honest with others about what you are doing and who you are.

Real honesty comes from a place of humility. If you are humble, and realize that you are not any better than anyone else, then you are free to be honest with yourself about your weaknesses. This self honesty and humility is at the root of people who are willing to "do what is right even when nobody is looking."

If you are humble, you don't have an ego that stands in the way trying to make you appear better than you are. Humble people aren't worried about careers, they worry about taking

care of their people and the mission. I look for humble people, because I can trust that they will be honest. Humility doesn't mean you can't be confident, proud, aggressive or even tenacious.

It just means that you have your feet planted firmly on the ground of reality and understand that it's not about you, it's about the mission.

Second, you have to be professional. The core of professionalism is having the passion to work hard to be the very best in the world at your job.

The best professionals have figured out, however, that unless you strike a balance in your life and take the time to develop your spiritual, physical and emotional horizons, professionalism can turn from hard work into obsession. Life is all about balance.

The best warriors for our country are the men and woman who have the wisdom to balance work with life. A warrior whose life is fulfilled, balanced and happy, is the one who finds the strength and courage to push through the most ominous challenges of combat. The balanced

"These are the attributes of character our nation needs in time of crisis. These are the leadership qualities American people expect of Airmen."

warrior is the one who wins the battle.

Third, you have to develop a warrior's spirit. Wearing the uniform means that you must prepare yourself for the unexpected catastrophic events that can, and will, befall our nation. You need to develop a steeled determination, a dedicated work ethic, and a self discipline to always do the job right. You need to practice tenacity of spirit. You need to make winning a habit. These are the attributes of character our nation needs in time of crisis. These are the leadership qualities the American people expect of airmen. It's worth reflecting on these time-tested truths and rededicating ourselves to sharpening these attributes in each other. It is our responsibility. It is our obligation. It is our calling.

American patriotism comes in many forms

By Lt. Col. Thomas P. Spellman
27th Services Squadron

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, N.M.— American citizens are not the only ones who support and defend our country. In fact, the Air Force currently has more than 2,500 registered immigrant aliens performing service for our country.

Title 8 of the United States Code allows individuals who have served in the armed services for three years to become naturalized citizens, providing they meet all the other criteria for citizenship: good moral character, integrity, the ability to read, write

"While these airmen in my squadron are not yet citizens, there is no doubt they are committed to supporting and defending our country."

and speak English, a basic knowledge of civics, and a commitment to the principles of the U.S. Constitution.

In January 2000, the Department of Defense initiated a program with the Immigration and Naturalization Service to streamline the processing of citizenship applications for immigrant aliens serving in the U.S. armed forces.

The goal is to reduce pro-

cessing time from two years to as little as four months. So far, 333 Air Force members have become naturalized citizens through this process and 210 members have applications pending with the INS.

Of the more than 2,500 immigrant aliens serving in the Air Force, some are in my squadron. They come from Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines and South Africa. Of the aliens, all but one deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and other contingency operations last year. That was the second de-

See **Patriotism**, page 3

Border Eagle

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Submissions can be e-mailed to: timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil or sheila.johnston@laughlin.af.mil.



Actionline
298-5351 or
actionline@laughlin.af.mil

Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By including your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also useful if more information is needed to pursue your inquiry. We will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

Before you call in or e-mail an Actionline, please try to work out the problem through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved. Please keep e-mails brief.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

Below are some useful telephone numbers that may be helpful when working your issue with a base agency.

AAFES	298-3176
Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Clinic	298-6311
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
EEO	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
MEO	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

***"Train the world's best
pilots and deploy
expeditionary forces world-
wide to fight and win
America's wars ... period!"***
— 47 Flying Training
Wing motto

Air Force officials wish nation a safe, happy 228th birthday

By Dr. James G. Roche
Secretary of the Air Force

By Gen. John P. Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

WASHINGTON — "Happy birthday, America! For the last 228 years our nation has been the beacon for peace, freedom and opportunity around the world.

America earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and through bravery on battlefields from Bunker Hill to

Baghdad.

"On Sunday, we'll celebrate with family and friends the joys of peace and the blessings of freedom.

As you celebrate, please remember those who paid the ultimate price defending the values established by our forefathers in forging our great nation.

"This Independence Day is especially meaningful as we support the rebirth of Iraqi sovereignty and defend freedom far from home.

Today, Airmen are deployed

all over the world, engaged on all fronts in the Global War on Terrorism, carrying freedom's torch.

Please remember our deployed Airmen in your thoughts and prayers on the 4th of July.

"America looks to you as their representatives of pride, strength and perseverance in times of peace and war.

We're proud of you and salute your great service.

We wish you and your families a safe and happy 4th of July!"

Independence Day: It's time to remember heroes

By Gen. Donald Cook
Air Education and Training Command commander

Sixty years ago, as more than 12,000 allied aircraft, about 5,000 naval vessels and 150,000 soldiers were heading toward Normandy Beach, President Eisenhower assured America victory in war and restoration of liberty.

President Ronald Reagan reminded America on the 40th anniversary of D-Day that "From a terrible war we learned that unity made us invincible; now, in peace, that same unity makes us secure."

That unity served as the foundation of our nation when 228 years ago, 56 individuals from the 13 original colonies signed the Declaration of Independence.

Absolved from any allegiance to Great Britain, the American colonies declared themselves free and independent.

That unity and expeditionary mindset is

also the foundation for our Air Force.

Since the Air Force's beginning, U.S. Air Force members have played a significant role in keeping America's declared independence.

From its creation in 1947 to today, our Airmen continue to serve with selflessness and unwavering dedication to preserve our country's freedom just as our founding fathers did in 1776.

As you prepare to celebrate this special day with your families and friends, I ask that you take a few minutes to remember the sacrifices so many U.S. patriots throughout history have made to ensure our inalienable rights of life, liberty, equality and the pursuit of happiness.

Remember, too, those military men and women serving overseas today who won't be celebrating America's birth on her shores.

On July 4th, pause to remember our heritage and to celebrate the birth of the United States of America, showing pride for the men and women who have made our country what it is today — the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Have a happy and safe Independence Day!

Patriotism, from page 2

ployment for many, despite wearing only one or two stripes.

Several of these members of my squadron are processing applications to become naturalized citizens, and a few others will be doing so once they meet the three-year service requirement.

Two people have completed

the requirements and will soon be sworn in as U.S. citizens.

They will be required to take an oath of allegiance where they will swear to renounce all foreign allegiances and to support and defend the principles of the U.S. Constitution.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines a citizen as "a person owing loyalty to and entitled by birth or naturalization

to the protection of a state or nation."

Compare this with the definition of a patriot, which is "one who loves, supports and defends one's country." While these airmen in my squadron are not yet citizens, there is no doubt they are committed to supporting and defending our country.

Let's not forget American patriotism comes in many forms.

Test scores cause concern for Laughlin, community

By Airman 1st Class
Olulemi Owolabi
Staff writer

Whose responsibility is it to educate our children and to help them do better on the new Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test?

The results of the San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District's TAKS test, released June 21 with the scores lower than expected and below the state's average, gave Laughlin members and the community a great concern on how to help local schools and improve children's learning abilities.

"Basically, it's a school board issue to bring the local community's children up to the state level but parents too should get keenly and actively involved in all levels of education," said Col. Keith Traster, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander.

Therefore, children's education and improvement requires a

combination of things – teaching quality, teachers' qualification and training, parents' involvement, focused student and learning resources, Colonel Traster said.

According to school district statistics, though the TAKS test scores overall were below the state's average, there were improvements in some areas, like reading, writing and social studies, compared to the 2003 test scores.

"The district needs to improve in sciences at all grade levels," said Roberto Fernandez, San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District superintendent. "This is the first time the schools were tested on sciences, and due to the changes in the state's testing criteria, we have more work to do in these areas."

According to Julio C. Ramos, SFDRCI school district assistant superintendent, the district has developed a summer school program and in-service training for teachers and students,

curriculum writing projects and summer camps.

Mr. Ramos said the district's teachers concentrated so much on reading and mathematical skills that they lost their skills in the sciences.

To help teachers improve their skills, the school district also created teachers' reading academies, teachers' math academy, algebra institute and summer workshops for reading language arts, he said.

"Once all these are in place, there's a standardized test the students would take to test their knowledge and skills and how well they have mastered what they learned," Mr. Ramos said.

He said this standardized test is used by the government to take accountability of each district's teaching and measure students improvement.

"But in order for our children to progress in the way we want them to, it takes the initiatives of the students,

teachers, parents, principal and administration," said Mr. Fernandez. "It is going to take all of us working together towards the instructional programs to help our children at a higher level."

Furthermore, he said it is the sole responsibility of the school district administration to establish the curriculum, to train staff and put other required resources together to ensure improvement at a faster pace.

Also, Mr. Ramos said the school district administrator will start to gather data of students and their individual performance on each TAKS test, and supply that information to the teachers. "This will enable us to track the improvement of each student on a particular subject and to provide extra tutorial classes when there's need for improvement."

To provide continuous learning process for students, Mr. Fernandez said the district has provided summer-

See Test, page 5

Newslines

Clarification to travel policy

During July 4th special pass period military members may travel outside the local area between Friday and Monday without being on leave. Departing the area before Friday or returning after Monday requires leave. Normal sign out procedures on the Form 29B still apply.

Please direct any questions through your chain of command.

Commissary closure

The commissary will be closed Sunday in observance of the holiday. The commissary will reopen on Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Warrior call

A Warrior Call is set for 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Anderson Hall auditorium. Due to space limitations Laughlin members wishing to attend will have to R.S.V.P. to the Family Support Center at 298-5620. A reception open to everyone will follow from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall rooms E and F.

The Warrior Call is designed to bring together Laughlin personnel and their families who have deployed within the last six months in order to come together in a reunion setting. Its purpose is to bring about any common problems or lessons learned during deployments.

Bus transportation will be provided as follows:

Building:	Time:
77	2:25 p.m.
8, 235	2:30 p.m.
7, 246	2:35 p.m.
100, 348	2:40 p.m.
140, 375	2:45 p.m.

Health forum

The Health Consumer's Advisory Council is holding a meeting at 1 p.m. July 9 in the wing conference room.

The meeting is a forum for exchanging information between the providers and consumers of health care at Laughlin.

For more information, call 298-6311.

Retirement ceremony

A retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Gerald Norris, 47th Con-

tracting Squadron, will be held at 3 p.m. July 9 at Club Amistad. All base members are invited to attend.

Medical townhall meeting

The 47th Medical Group is holding townhall meeting 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 12 and 6 to 8 p.m. July 15 at the base theater to discuss changes to inpatient service at Val Verde Regional Medical Center for retirees and family members.

For more information, call 298-6312.

Retirement seminars

The Civilian Personnel Flight is holding two retirement seminars July 14 at the base theater.

The first seminar is from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and is designed for civil service employees under the Civil Service Retirement System. The second seminar is from 12:30 to 4 p.m. and is designed for civil service employees under the Federal Employees Retirement System. Interested attendees should R.S.V.P. with Mark Martinez at 298-5806.

Topics to be discussed include: eligibility for retirement, financial ben-

efits derived under the system and tax consequence, portability/flexibility of program, social security benefits, military service, consequences of non-deposit/redeposit service and survivor benefits.

Daedalian scholarship

The George Beverly Flight of the Order of Daedalians is sponsoring two \$500 flight scholarships for Laughlin members admitted to attend an accredited four-year college or university and who have demonstrated the desire and potential to pursue a career as a commissioned military pilot.

Contact Lew Nunley at 774-0278, 298-5430 or lwnunley@delrio.com, for more information. Applications can also be found at www.daedalians.org/index.html. Mail completed applications to 109 Fox Drive, Del Rio, Texas. The deadline to receive applications is Wednesday. Selectees will be forwarded to the national committee for potential matching funds.

A fund raising golf tournament is set for July 24 at Leaning Pine Golf Course.

Online news

Access breaking news at United States Air Force Online News, the official newspaper of the United States Air Force. Simply go to www.af.mil/news/ and stay informed about events.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Olufemi Owolabi

Flying American ...

Romanian Maj. Mihai Tanasa steps into a T-37 to take a familiarization ride June 25. Major Tanasa was at Laughlin studying how the U.S. Military conducts air traffic control.

‘Test’, from page 4

enrichment camps. “This will allow us to serve these children better during their holidays.”

Some of these programs are: Option Extended Year for failing students, Project Smart for all grade levels, Migrant Exemplary Educational Program, Special Education self-help skills and Bilingual program for developing language skills and knowledge.

“To provide these after-classes, weekend and holiday

studies, we need the partnership of the community, especially Laughlin parents, to use their expertise to put together mentoring programs,” Mr. Ramos said. “These programs will help our children to see the role models among Laughlin members and it will increase their awareness, experience and understanding of what is in store for them in future.”

“Therefore Laughlin could bring the future and the world to our children,” he said.

If you know of or suspect fraud, waste and abuse, call the FWA hotline at 298-4170.



Graduation



SUPT Class 04-11 graduates



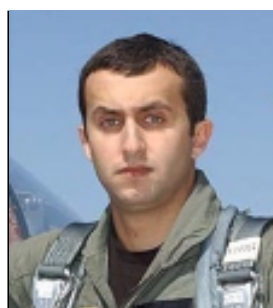
Capt. Anthony Fyke
B-52 (AFRES)
Barksdale AFB, La.



Capt. Michael Harris
KC-135 (ANG)
Fairchild AFB, Wash.



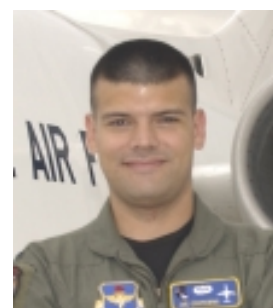
Capt. Kevin Woods
C-5 (ANG)
Memphis, Tenn.



1st Lt. Abdullah Alhulail
F-18
Al-Jaber AFB, Saudi Arabia



1st Lt. Saud Alzayed
F-18
Al-Jaber AFB, Saudi Arabia



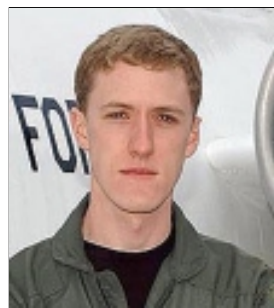
1st Lt. Joseph Corpening
KC-135
MacDill AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Tamer Hassan
C-130
Pope AFB, N.C.



1st Lt. Joseph Hext
A-10
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Shawn McGregor
KC-135
McConnell AFB, Kan.



1st Lt. Peter Mauro
T-6
Laughlin AFB



1st Lt. Thomas White III
C-21
Peterson AFB, Colo.



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Benware
KC-135 (AFRES)
Grissom ARB, Ind.



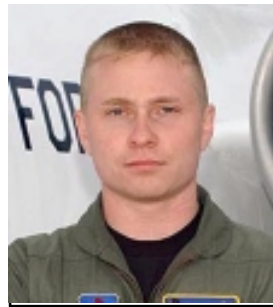
2nd Lt. Kevin Gallaway
C-21
Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Benjamin Grusin
C-17
Charleston AFB, S.C.



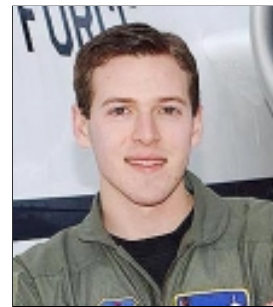
2nd Lt. Peter Gryn
T-1
Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Chris Guffey
KC-135
Mildenhall AB, Great Britain



2nd Lt. Christopher Hilton
KC-10
Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Aaron Kleiman
RC-135
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Loudon
KC-135 (ANG)
Scott AFB, Ill.



2nd Lt. Thomas McCarty
B-52
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Joshua Pieper
C-17
McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Jerod Rife
F-15C
Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Edwin Rotan II
F-16C
Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Sharon Tweedy
C-17
McGuire AFB, N.J.

U.S. Iraq occupation officially ends

By John Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Sovereignty in Iraq passed from the Coalition Provisional Authority to the interim Iraqi government Monday, two days ahead of schedule.

In a 10-minute ceremony inside the heavily fortified “Green Zone” where coalition headquarters is located in Baghdad, CPA administrator L. Paul Bremer III read a letter he had signed which dissolved the authority.

“As recognized in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1546, the Coalition Provisional Authority will cease to exist on June 28, at which point the occupation will end and the Iraqi interim government will assume and exercise full sovereign authority on behalf of the Iraqi people. I welcome Iraq’s steps to take its rightful place of equality and honor among the free nations of the world,” Mr. Bremer read.

Mr. Bremer boarded a helicopter shortly after the ceremony and later left the country aboard an Air Force C-130 Hercules.

“This is a historic and happy day for us in Iraq,” said Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawar after receiving the transfer documents. “It is a day that all Iraqis have been looking forward to. This is the day that we take our country back into the international community. We want a free

and democratic Iraq, and we want a country that is a source of peace and stability for the whole world.”

Iraqi prime minister Iyad Allawi, who reportedly sought the early transfer, expressed confidence in his government’s ability to stabilize the violence-wracked country.

“This is a historical day,” he said. “We feel we are capable of controlling the security situation.”

A poll cited in a Defense Department document called “Five Steps to Sovereignty” said 68 percent of Iraqis have confidence in the interim Iraqi government, and 79 percent think the interim government will make things better for Iraq. The new government has an 80-percent approval rating among Iraqis, 73 percent of whom approve of Mr. Allawi, and 84 percent of whom approve of President Yawar.

The document said the interim government will operate under the rules defined in Iraq’s Transitional Administrative Law, which it called “the most liberal basic governance document in the Arab world.”

At a farewell meeting

Sunday with the city, regional and provincial councils in Baghdad, Mr. Bremer expressed confidence in the new government’s ability to take over Iraq’s affairs.

“When I arrived in Baghdad in May last year, the city was still on fire from the looters,” he said. “There was not a single policeman on duty in the entire city. Not in Baghdad, not in Basra, not anywhere in the country. We were producing 300 megawatts of electricity in the entire country. A lot has gotten better.”

Iraq now has 100,000 police officers on duty across the country, Mr. Bremer said.

“There are not enough yet in Baghdad,” he said. “Schools and clinics and hospitals have been reopened, though much has to be done to improve health care in Baghdad and in the country.”

Mr. Bremer expressed optimism to the council members for Iraq’s future.

“I am very confident that Iraq in fact will get through this process of political development and will wind up as a beacon for countries in the region as Iraq has so often been

in its very long 5,000-year history,” he said. “The reason I’m confident is because of people like you, people all over the country who are willing to take up the job and the responsibility for Iraq, because the most important thing that happens when sovereignty returns to the Iraqi government is responsibility returns to the Iraqi people.”

He assured the Iraqi leaders that they will not have to go it alone.

“We will still be here to help you,” Mr. Bremer said. “The multinational forces will

still be here to help with security until the Iraqi forces are able on their own to deal with security. The American government will be here in the form of a very large American Embassy, which will help work with Iraqis to oversee the reconstruction projects which are now beginning already to make an impact on the Iraqi economy.”

The United States will spend almost \$19 billion in Iraq throughout the next 15 to 18 months, Mr. Bremer said, much of it on rebuilding of old infrastructure like electricity, water and sewage systems.

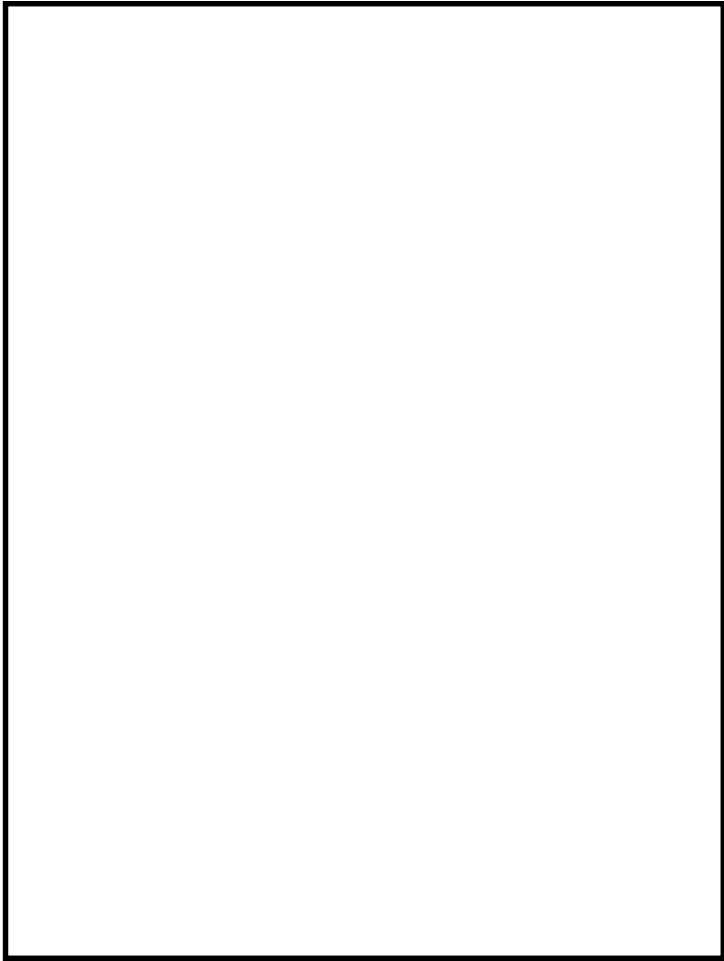
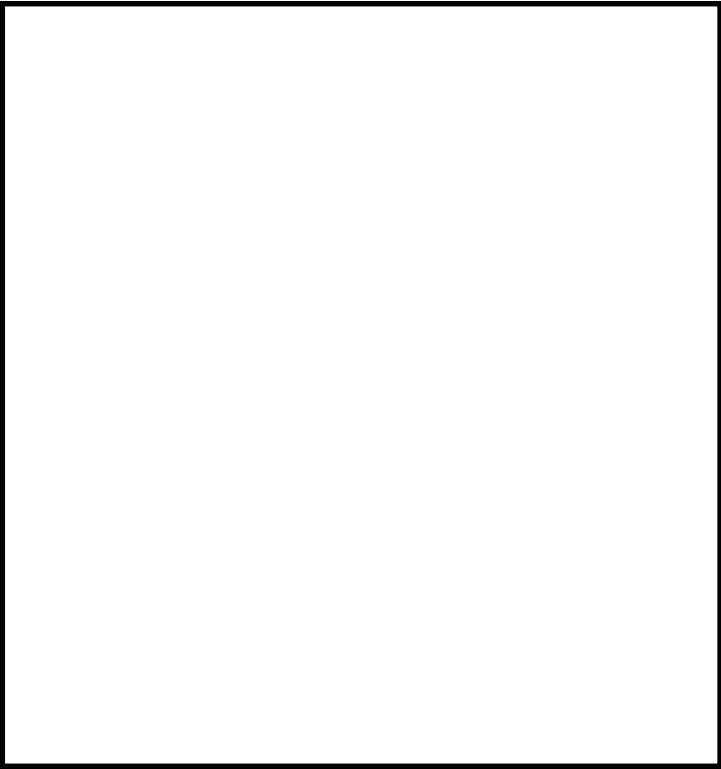
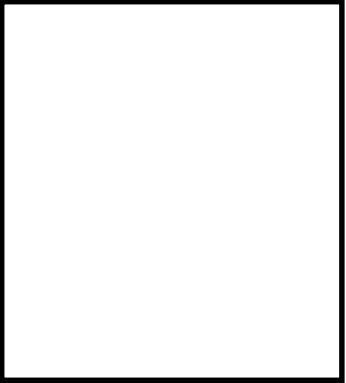




Photo by Paco Mendoza

Laughlin's newest pilot ...

Christian Renteria, son of Jose and Martina Renteria of Del Rio, checks out the controls on a T-1 simulator June 24. Christian was at Laughlin to participate in the Pilot for a Day Program.

Services' Independence Day weekend hours

Today

- Book Mark Library: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Chaparral Dining Facility: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 5 – 6:30 p.m.
- Lodging Open 24 hours
- XL Fitness Center: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Auto Skills Center: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friendship Pool: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Leaning Pine Golf Course: 7 a.m. – sunset
- Outdoor Recreation: 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Southwinds Marina: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Child Development Center: 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- School Age Program: 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

- Book Mark Library: 1 – 5 p.m.
- Chaparral Dining Facility: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 5 – 6:30 p.m.
- Lodging Open 24 hours
- XL Fitness Center: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friendship Pool: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Leaning Pine Golf Course: 7 a.m. – sunset
- Paintball by appointment
- Southwinds Marina: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday

- Chaparral Dining Facility: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 5 – 6:30 p.m.
- Lodging Open 24 hours
- XL Fitness Center: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friendship Pool: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Leaning Pine Golf Course: 7 a.m. – sunset
- Southwinds Marina: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Monday

- Chaparral Dining Facility: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 5 – 6:30 p.m.
- Lodging Open 24 hours
- XL Fitness Center: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friendship Pool: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Leaning Pine Golf Course: 7 a.m. – sunset
- Southwinds Marina: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Commander's Access Channel:

Tune to **Cable Channel 34** for up-to-date information about events and activities at Laughlin.

Buckle your seatbelt

July 4 *Border Eagle* cover entries



Tech. Sgt. Alice McClain,
47th Operations Support Squadron

“The flag represents the original 13 colonies. The eagle represents freedom. The Jefferson memorial represents the main author of the Declaration of Independence. The rose is the national floral emblem.”

(On cover)

Mari Seaburg,
(8) Daughter of Lt. Col. Robert Seaburg

“America and her flag still stand tall for freedom.”



Karlie Seaburg,
(11) Daughter of Lt. Col. Robert Seaburg

“I chose to draw people from different countries because America is a place for peoples of all different races, religions, etc.”



Connie Salazar,
47th Mission Support Squadron

“Happy birthday America.”



2nd Lt. Samuel Sterlin,
85th Flying Training Squadron

“Depicts native Texas ‘Bald Eagle’ grasping US and Air Force flags – high over the Val Verde county landscape. On the ground (centered closest to the viewer) is Laughlin AFB, home of the ‘Border Eagle’ newspaper.”

Alia Seaburg,
(13) Daughter of Lt. Col. Robert Seaburg

“My drawing is of a Bald Eagle carrying an American Flag in its talons. There are fireworks going off in the background. I chose to draw an eagle because it is a symbol of American Freedom and Strength.”



Officers salute base enlisted members

By 2nd Lt. Sheila Johnston
Public affairs

Laughlin enlisted personnel received a salute from officers June 25 during the annual Enlisted Appreciation Day picnic.

Despite the condemning forecast and torrential downpour, base personnel participated in a variety of events and enjoyed freshly-flipped burgers and hot dogs courtesy of the Company Grade Officers Council.

Col. Keith Traster, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, was pleased with the turnout as he participated as a bona fide chef during the lunch rush.

“That grill was smokin’ hot, but I was glad to serve such a deserving crowd,” said Colonel Traster. “Laughlin’s enlisted force ensures we meet our mission requirements. They are the ones who keep us going.”

Before rain scattered the crowd, about 400 meals were served, and

several base members participated in the open horse shoes and “washers” games.

The Chiefs’ and First Shirts’ Pie-in-the-Face Auction drew a lively bunch of NCOs more than willing to shell out a few bucks to present a pie to Chief Master Sgt. Ted Pilihos, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief; Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Prothro, 47th Communication Squadron; Master Sgt. Karla Jordan-Hunnicut; 47th Medical Group; and Master Sgt. Clifford Hickok, 47th Operations Group.

The softball game was barely underway when lightening forced the staff to cancel it. The senior NCOs reassembled at the XL Fitness Center for the volleyball match, but their opponents, the Rising Six team, never emerged. However, the senior NCOs took advantage of the down time to play a pick up game of volleyball to hone their skills. Before the end of the day, the senior NCOs were demanding a rematch with the Rising Six.



All photos by Senior Airman Timothy J. Stein

Chief Master Sgt. Ted Pilihos, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief, receives a pie in the face from Tech. Sgt. Erik Maye, 47th FTW, and Master Sgt. Laura Hopkins, 47th FTW command post.



Col. Keith Traster, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, takes a dip in the dunk tank after a successful throw. Bad weather spared Colonel Traster from spending more time in the dunk tank.



Laughlin enlisted line up for burgers and hotdogs. More than 400 meals were served.

Firemen hose cops, 10-6, in softball

By Senior Airman
Timothy J. Stein
Editor

The 47th Civil Engineer Squadron took an early lead over the 47th Security Forces Squadron in intramural softball action Wednesday and never let up, winning the game 10-6.

Daniel Ruhl lead the way for CES by hitting an inside-the-park home run in the first inning, scoring two and a single in the fifth, scoring one.

Ruhl wasn't the only player to do damage to SFS in the first inning. Nathan Olsen also hit a double, scoring two, to bring the run tally up to four in the inning.

Brian Tonnancour added two more

runs for CES in the second with another inside-the-park home run with one man on.

SFS got on the board in the bottom of the third when Kevin Robertson scored on a sacrifice fly after hitting a triple.

Ruhl got his last RBI in the fifth off a single with men on first and second. He was later thrown out at home after a collision with SFS catcher Jerod Williams.

SFS got their bats swinging when down 1-7 in the bottom of the fifth. Robertson nailed a two-run homer which sailed over the fence and the CES right fielder. SFS added three more runs off of hits by Frank Munderback, Ronnie Garcia, Spencer

Duclos and a sacrifice by Stacy Kelly.

CES went up to bat in the top of the sixth holding a slim 7-5 lead. With the bases loaded and no outs it looked as if they were going to add a lot more to that total. They got one off a walk but then SFS turned an improbable triple play ending the half. SFS's offense couldn't match the play of their defense as they could only manage one hit.

CES added two more insurance runs in the seventh and final inning while holding SFS to one run on two hits.

The win keeps CES perfect 6-0 and atop the National League standings. The loss brings the SFS record to 3-3, good for a tie at second.

Intramural Softball Standings

	Team	W-L
<u>American League</u>	84/85th	3-1
	87th	3-1
	OSS	3-2
	LCSAM 1	2-1
	Del-Jen 2	2-2
	LCSAM 2	2-1
	Del-Jen 1	2-2
	86th	1-3
<u>National League</u>	Team	W-L
	CES	6-0
	CCS	3-3
	SFS	3-3
	LSI	3-2
	MED GP	2-3
	SVS	1-4
	MSS	1-7

Threat of rabies: real, preventable

By Senior Airman
Aspen Heine
*47th Aeromedical-Dental
Squadron public health
apprentice*

The threat of rabies at Laughlin and in the surrounding area is real.

Rabies is a preventable viral disease that causes acute encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

The virus exists in the saliva of mammals and is transmitted from animal to animal or from animal to human by biting and/or scratching. If left untreated in humans and animals, rabies is fatal. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, early symptoms of rabies in humans are nonspecific consisting of fever, headache and general malaise. As the disease progresses other life threatening symptoms appear that can rapidly lead to death.

There is an abundance of wildlife surrounding the base

and local area. The risk of being infected with rabies is elevated in the summer because more people are participating in outdoor activities and possibly coming in contact with wild or stray animals.

If someone is bitten or scratched by any animal, wash the area of the wound thoroughly with soap and water, then seek medical attention immediately. If bitten while on base please contact security forces at 298-5100 and off base contact animal control at 774-8628.

The most common sources of rabies are raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes, and coyotes. These wild animals can bite or scratch unvaccinated pets that then expose humans to the virus. Never attempt to approach any stray animal.

For more information, please call the Public Health office at 298-6380 or visit www.cdc.gov.